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It is also with profound regret that we learn of the demise of Mr. M. Mueller, Hunter Road, Eltham, a member of our Society for many years. The late Mr. Mueller was very well known and liked amongst the Swiss Community in the Taranaki District and a large family is mourning his death and we wish to offer them our deepest sympathy in their sad loss.

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COLLECTION FOR A MONUMENT FOR THE LATE FEDERAL COUNCILLOR AND FORMER PRESIDENT  
OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION - DR. GIUSEPPE MOTTA.

In the November, 1942, issue of the "Helvetia" we reported on the result of this collection amongst the Swiss people in New Zealand and now quote below a translation of a letter received from the "Neue Helvetische Gesellschaft", Berne, to which the money was handed over:

"In the name of the Committee for the "Swiss Foundation in memory of the late Dr. Giuseppe Motta" we wish to acknowledge the receipt of the amount of NZ\$39.10.6 and to thank all contributors. We have taken note of their names which will be entered on a scroll and encased in the monument.

We are indeed very thankful for this generous contribution coming from a Swiss community so far away from home and it gives us great satisfaction to see, that the Swiss in New Zealand are associating themselves with the movement to pay reverence to the memory of one of our great statesmen and his valuable deeds in the service of our country."

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SUNDRY NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND.

An ardent appeal was sent over the Swiss radio on March 22nd calling on our people to approach the future with a spirit of sacrifice and determination as the iron belt round our country would probably be pulled tighter still. The experience of a Swiss doctor was cited who during his mission in a Finnish military camp had to amputate the leg of a young soldier. He was trying to find suitable words to express his sympathy when the Finn interrupted him by saying, "Sir, I know what you would like to say and I thank you, but for My Finland I would gladly sacrifice the other leg." Federal Councillor von Steiger stated in a recent speech at Zurich that the coming six months would be the most critical period which our country had ever faced.

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The recent issue of 150,000,000 frs. of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Federal Loan and 150,000,000 frs. of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Treasury Bonds has been heavily oversubscribed. The Federal Council has decided to accept the full amount of the subscriptions, namely, 232,000,000 frs. of the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Loan and 255,000,000 frs. of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Bonds.

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The canton of Uri is contributing about Frs. 160,000 towards the reconstruction scheme of the Lake of Lucerne Navigation company; about Frs. 100,000 are a loan free of interest and the remaining Frs. 60,000 a fonds perdu.

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The management of the Zurich Stadttheater has succeeded in reducing a former annual deficit of over Frs. 637,486 to the negligible sum of 1,700 francs. By catering for the tastes of a larger circle of theatre-goers an average of 73% of the seats available have been occupied (previously 53%); considerable credit is due to the Federal Railways which ran special theatre trains from and to Schaffhausen, Aarau, Zug, Glarus, etc.

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